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HSS

Record and Chronicle

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THE ANNUAL EMPLOYEE TALKS

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." A timely statement to be sure. Charles Dickens wrote it in A Tale of Two Cities, describing a period centuries ago. Mr. T. Gordon Young might have used that statement to describe 1974 at The Hospital for Special Surgery.

As he has for the past ten years, our Vice-President, Administration shared with over 500 employees the triumphs and sorrows we experienced last year in a series of 12 round-the-clock sessions of "Employee Talks".

Some of the hard times: the health care industry, generally, was confronted with the economic challenge of being held under government-controlled wage/price restrictions while being hit with inflation and controlled reimbursement rates. Unjustly perhaps, the nursing home scandal has reflected poorly on hospitals. We lost much of our Medical Library in a tragic fire. And, regrettably, we had to lay off 11 employees.

But some good things happened too: wage & salary-wise, HSS granted mid-year increases in order to maintain competitive salaries as we have in the past. A Budget Review Committee, comprised of Mr. Young's top management team, conducted a comprehensive survey of costs, practices, and procedures with the goal of cutting costs but maintaining efficiency and quality patient care. What began as an arduous undertaking became a healthy and productive exercise and will continue as an on-going effort in cooperation with Department Heads. From that review, more than $107,000 in savings was realized, the Linen Room will be converted into a Brace Shop Patient Reception Area to enhance patient comfort and improve efficiency....to name just a few of the many projects under way. We passed the Joint Commission's inspection with flying colors. We published a long overdue Pension booklet describing the many improvements we've made in our Plan in the last few years. We revised our Tuition Refund Plan in response to concerns expressed in previous "Talks".

And on the lighter side: our Bowling League is into it's fourth year with 12 teams and 48 regular bowlers. Our Basketball Team has regrouped and will be out on the courts again. We had another successful Blood Drive. And, coming up on the horizon, an Employee Handicrafts Fair!

With all the trials and tribulations, we made it through the year. Mr. Young went on to express his feeling that "Each of us has a part to play in this drama. Special Surgery has always meant something 'special' to me and, I think, most of our patients. High quality care from concerned employees and skilled physicians -- something you don't find everywhere. I can't tell you how many patients comment on the wonderful 'atmosphere' at HSS. Well, that's you -- individually and collectively. Whatever our problems, and they are many, we will solve them. Change will come, through evolution, I trust -- but together we will keep Special Surgery special."

...

ALL THE BEST, EMMA

On February 27th, Emma Anderson, Laboratories, retired after 22 1/2 years at Special Surgery. All of Emma's Friends attended her Retirement Tea, held in the 2nd Floor Lecture Hall, to extend their wishes for her continued happiness and good health. Everyone in the Hospital knew Emma from the basement all the way up to the ninth floor.

Dr. Robert Mellors, Director of Research and Mr. T. Gordon Young, Vice Pres.-Admin., present Emma with her Revere Silver Bowl.

Mr. T. Gordon Young presented Emma with a Revere Silver Bowl in recognition of her many years of dedicated service.

Emma plans to devote much of her leisure time to church activities. She is also looking forward to a lot of travelling -- some of which may be on a motorcycle!

We all look forward to seeing Emma in the near future. As the jingle says, Emma, "good things happen on a Honda," and we all hope all good things happen to you.

Emma sharing her happy day with her family.

Marilou Escarilla, Joyce Lautersack and Marilyn Meyer(right to left) are going to miss Emma.

Mr. Vince Conti, Chief Pharmacist, wishing Emma the best.

PERFECT ATTENDERS

Congratulations to the following 96 employees who had perfect attendance during the calendar year of 1974. We're sure you'll enjoy your two Bonus "H" days.

Accoo, Gertrude
Adjemian, Lydia
Aguero, Antonio
Andino, Camilo
Beldelizo, Rolando
Best, Catherine
Blyden, Basil
Broom, Gwenyth
Brown, Albert
Brown, Herbert
Burrison, Randolph
Carrington, Geraldine
Carroll, Margaret
Chevere, Gregorio
Coleman, Mary
Cottrell, Richard
Cushen, Mary
Dobson, Nancy
Dreyfus, Ann
Dzuban, Elizabeth
Ebert, Noreen
Feeney, Margaret
Finnessey, Josephine
Fuller, Deborah
Gartland, Henry
Goei, Tjong-Tik
Grandison, David
Grannis, William
Graycar, Frances
Griffith, Ruth
Grossman, Julius
Hallock, Mildred
Hevessy, Patricia
Hochenburger, Eva
Houtkin, Sol
Ilson, Jerome
Jarrett, Marie
Jenkins, Andrew
Johnson, Archibald
Joseph, Claudette
Kelly, Mary
Kilfoyle, Jean
Kramer, Herbert
Lautersack, Joyce
Lawston, Louise
Lewton, Gwendoline
LoBalbo, Cirino
Lopez, Yepsi
Louzao, Gilbert
Lueloy, Winifred
Marcella, Jane
McDaniel, Jean
Meyer, Marilyn
Moore, James
Morile, Orel
Nicholson, Geraldine
O'Connor, Alice
Oliver, Sylvester
Ortiz, Teodoro
Pace, Georgia
Palermo, Daniel
Pellich, Claire
Potusek, Barbara
Quatroche, Mary Jane
Quinn, Elizabeth
Raab, Judith
Rea, Lois
Rechenberg, John
Renaud, Carlo
Robinson, Lucy
Royal, James
Ryan, Mary
Sandoval, Enith
Saranchak, Richard
Scharf, Kenneth
Schneider, David
Schneider, Theresa
Schulz, Walter
Shields, Eileen
Simanca, Margarete
Simmons, Theodore
Skala, Zdenek
Smith, Catherine
Smith, Dean
Tanigaki, Irene
Tedesko, Lotte
Vicenty, Leonardo
Walsh, Marie
Warren, Doris
Weekes, Linda
Whittingham, Christine
Wilbur, Christopher
Worrell, Eustace
Yoder, Nancy
Young, Melvin
Young, T. Gordon

Carmen Velazquez (above) and Mrs. Kim Barrett (below) are sure going to miss Emma too!

UNITED FUND DRIVE

Our 1975 United Fund Drive was highly successful. Three hundred and nine employees donated (almost half of our total employees) a total of $8,854.50.

Mr. Vincent Conti, Chief Pharmacist, and the United Fund solicitors from all Departments are to be highly commended for making this year's drive a great success. To quote Mr. Conti, "I think their generosity surprised me in these times but then I hear that giving helps people in many ways."

HSS BASKETBALL TEAM

The Basketball Team is 18 members strong this year. The players are:

William Adam	Resident
William Arroyo	Engineering
Herman Ashe	Nursing
Elmore Beasley	Receiving (Capt)
Lance Brigham	Resident
Donald Davidson	Resident
Edward Jones	Resident
Michael Matthews	Communications
Herbert McQueen	Bldg. Serv.
Patrick O'Leary	Resident
Peter Robinson	Resident
James Royal	OPD
Norman Scott	Resident
Paul Stahl	Communications
James Tucker	Nursing
Russell Vergess	Resident
Edward Williams	Dietary

League competition, which began on March 4th, will continue till June 13th, on Tuesday and Friday evenings. For your convenience, a schedule of games is posted on the 3rd floor bulletin board outside the Cafeteria.

HSS will be competing against teams from The Animal Medical Center, Memorial-Sloan Kettering, Mount Sinai Hospital and The New York Hospital.

The games are held in Julia Richman High School, 317 East 67th Street, in the 2nd Floor Gym. So be sure to come out and root for HSS. You're guaranteed to enjoy it!

SOCIAL SECURITY

Just a reminder that the maximum amount of annual earnings subject to Social Security deductions automatically increased to $14,100 effective 1/1/75. The Social Security tax rate of 5.85% of taxable earnings for employers and employees remains the same.

INSIDE TALK

Welcome to the following new employees:

Esther Houtkin, Acct., *Pamela Borges*, Anes., *William Evans*, *Robert Patterson*, *McLandis Peterkinson*, *Isiah Thomas*, Bldg. Serv., *Michael Melignano*, *Wayne Zimmerman*, Comm., *James Charlemagne*, *Maureen Padilla*, Diet., *Charles Dickenson*, *Anna Lubatkin*, *Anne Shick*, Nursing, *Paul McGrath*, P & O

BIRTHS

Congratulations to *Joe & Dottie Balogh*, (formerly of Nursing) on the birth of their son, *Michael Paul*.
Best wishes to *Frances Sy*, Laboratories, who gave birth to a baby girl named *Jennifer* in December.
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Colbourne, Acct., welcomed their new son, *Ryan*, on January 29th.

ILLNESSES

Best wishes to *Frances O'Hare*, Dietary, for a speedy recovery.
A warm "hello" to *Wanda DiGregorio* from all your friends at HSS. We hope you get well soon.

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to the following graduates, returning to HSS with their RN diplomas:

Lily Butler
Valarie Gray
Gloria Paige

Welcome back to *Johnnie James*, Dietary, who recently returned to work.
It's good to see that *Marjorie Walker*, Medical Records, is back again.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathy to *Frances O'Hare*, Dietary, on the loss of her mother.

CONGRATULATIONS

A special congratulations to *Stella Smith*, Dietary, who received her High School Equivalency Diploma. Stella attended the High School Equivalency Program at The New York Hospital during the fall.

Several other employees, *Dazil Blackman*, Medical Records, *Lincoln Champagnie*, Radiology, *Grethel Joseph*, Nursing, and *Retha Harrison*, Medical Records, scored very well on the exam and are eligible for a special class this term. Congratulations to all!

Special Note:

Don't forget the Employee Handicrafts Fair, which will be held on May 1st and 2nd.

So far, forty-one employees have pledged to donate items for the Fair. Some of the interesting things that will be on sale are: Chinese pottery, Irish bread, paintings, aprons, pot holders, leather crafts, needlepoint, crocheted shawls, and leaded glass window decorations -- to name just a few. Of course, there will be lots of cake, cookies and pies to whet your appetite.

Remember, if you don't want to make something, you can help with the decorations, publicity or you can be a sales volunteer.

Bet you never knew that your friends and coworkers at HSS were so talented!

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T. GORDON YOUNG
Administrative Vice-President

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